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## Review of Books

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Kendall, Woodward and Skrbis give the readers a nicely balanced picture of political, cultural and ethical conditions surrounding cosmopolitanism that many people experience in everyday practice. In stark contrast to the utopian vision of cosmopolitanism, which tends to regard the realization of cosmopolitanism as a necessary consequence of economic globalization, the authors' sociological analysis of the political potential of cosmopolitanism is sober, cool and realistic. They pay close attention to the ambivalent relationship between the rise of economic globalization and the prevalence of cosmopolitan culture and sentiments, as well as the persistence of nation-centric indifference towards other cultures in the wake of recent sociopolitical phenomena that transcend local and national borders. As the title of the concluding chapter tells the reader, Kendall, Woodward and Skrbis recognize the significance of cosmopolitanism as 'an intellectual and political project'. This leaves those who endeavour to clarify the political, cultural and ethical conditions of cosmopolitanism to engage in more empirical research of cosmopolitanism, based on the conceptual framework this book provides. Only a sociology that is both realistic in its empirical investigation and imaginative in its theoretical investigation can make clear which factors facilitate and which hinder the realization of 'authentic' cosmopolitanism.

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**Roberts J. Timmons and Amy Bellone Hite, eds, *The Globalization and Development Reader: Perspectives on Development and Global Change*. Melbourne: Blackwell, 2007, 450 pp., ISBN 9781405132367, A\$198.00.**

**keywords:** capitalism ♦ communism ♦ dependency ♦ globalism ♦ globalization ♦ transnational ♦ underdevelopment

Among the vast array of scholarly essays, books, declarations of principles and anthologies that have been made available since the beginning of the 21st century, the edited work of Roberts and Hite, *The Globalization and Development Reader: Perspectives on Development and Global Change*, is outstanding and marks itself as a useful cognitive blend of ideas on capitalism and communism. This is a welcome addition to a fast-growing literature on globalization and development. Furthermore, the book is relevant in the present reality, taking into consideration the global economic crunch. Globalization, which involves the rapid growth of economies,

cultures and power globally, has become a 'buzzword' in development discourse. The thrust of the work is to present the changing society in order to generate debate over who is to be blamed for the underdevelopment of 'Third World' countries. It gives a historical account of the industrial revolution and the movement towards global economic production.

The different contributors to the book make compelling cases in support of their arguments. A closer look at the chapters shows that socialist thought (Marx and Engels, Weber, W. W. Rostow, Gunder Frank and Fernando Henrique Cardoso, among others) as well as capitalist thought (Thomas L. Friedman, Norberg, Stiglitz, Rodrik, Jeffrey D. Sachs, Manisha, Desai and so on) are both represented.

The book has five parts divided into 27 chapters. Part I, titled 'Formative Approaches to Development and Social Change', has four articles, with a focus on the development of capitalism and views of important thinkers on capitalism. Part II deals with 'Dependency and Beyond'. It includes five articles which theorize early globalization by scholars of dependency and world system theories. Part III, titled 'What is Globalization? Attempts to Understand Economic Globalization', has six articles with emphases on conceptualizations of globalization in view of the world economy and the novel international division of labour. Part IV, titled 'The Opportunities and Limits of Unfettered Globalization', has six articles that express the divergent views of theoreticians such as Johan Norberg and Dani Rodrik, who represent 'cautious optimists', while the pessimists are represented in their arguments by Robert Wade, Mark Duffield and Giovanni Arrighi et al.; and Joseph Stiglitz represents the in-between. The samplings of various views of opposition to globalization are expressed here. Part V is about 'Confronting Globalization', and it has six articles that discuss the labour movement and environmental and feminine issues as an avenue for activists who are working on a transnational basis to locate crucial methods for alleviating the fears of, and the negative impact of globalization.

The book sparks debates about the relative impact of internal and external factors on underdevelopment in the Third World. A frequently asked question has to do with the reason for the poverty of some countries despite their exposure to capitalism and modernism. The various theorists in this book are able to address the question because the ideas actually impacted on the US's efforts to foster capitalist developments in Third World countries.

Modernization is viewed as disruptive by Samuel Huntington in Part I. He emphasizes the slow process of modernization that occurs in stages. The basic features of modernization theory are exhaustively discussed, and these include the revolutionary nature and the complexity of the process that involves alteration in all areas of human activities. He also discusses the systemic nature of the process of modernization whereby the modifications are related to and affect changes in the other spheres of human life. Modernization originated in Europe and is currently influencing all the non-western societies, including Afro-Asian countries. Modernization has time-consuming phases – societies begin as traditional collectivities and move towards modernity. Also included in the features of modernization theory which are discussed are the explicit homogeneous, irreversible and progressive processes.





Part IV of the book shares the views of intellectual and policy debates on globalization. The issues of trade, the crucial point of economic development, are re-emphasized. World trade has been expanded not just for the purpose of supplying goods but also for rendering services. The view of the critics is that it will be difficult to conceptualize a 'global society' with the present state of social inequality.

Part V reflects social movements which include feminist movements, anti-globalization movements, organized labour and environmental movements. What is most obvious in this book is the 'globalization of activism'. In clear connection with this view, Held et al. (2001: 503) see globalization as the connections between different regions of the world – from the cultural to the criminal, the financial to the environmental, and ways of changing and increasing over time.

In conclusion, the book is richly co-authored with various debates by some 42 authors. It brings into focus the knowledge that globalization has been ongoing for centuries, but is different in nature and magnitude in this post-Cold War era. There is the speeding up of the world because of the new system of transport and communication, which enables ideas, goods and services, capital and humans to move more quickly. Therefore, it is difficult to separate domestic matters from international affairs; the line is increasingly blurred. In their analysis and arguments, the authors in the book extend their views beyond a rhetoric of defensive positions by producing a richer account of what globalization portends. It is also indicative of the fact that in order to understand the intricacies of globalization, there is a need to study the forms it has taken historically in all spheres of influence, which include politics, economy, culture, environment and feminism.

## Reference

Held, D., McGrew, A., Goldblatt, D. and Perraton, J. (2001) 'Managing the Challenge of Globalization and Institutionalizing Cooperation through Global Governance', in C. W. Kegley, Jr and E. R. Wittkopf (eds) *The Global Agenda: Issues and Perspectives*, 6th edn. Singapore: McGraw-Hill.

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**Willem Schinkel, ed., *Globalization and the State: Sociological Perspectives on the State of the State*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009, 256 pp., ISBN 9780230574052, £50.00.**

**keywords:** control state ♦ European Union ♦ globalization ♦ security state ♦ welfare state